REMARKS

Claims 2, 4, 36-51 and 63-74 are pending in this application and stand rejected. Claims 2, 4, 36-51 and 63-74 have been revised. Claims 36, 43, 51, 63 and 74 remain independent.

The claims have been revised to improve their form, and to provide Applicant with protection that is commensurate with the scope of the invention.

The Rejections Under
35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 36-41, 43-48, 50, 51, 63-68, 70 and 74 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 5,899,980 to Wilf et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, and submits the following arguments in support thereof.

Claim 36 is directed to an electronic system for setting up an authentication through a communication network. This system includes a personal terminal that is operated for participating in the authentication, the personal terminal being connectable to the communication network and including an information indicating unit, the personal terminal including an input unit for inputting information regarding the authentication, a virtual terminal that is connectable to the communication network for participating in the authentication with the personal terminal, and a synchronizing server communicating with the personal terminal and with the virtual terminal, the synchronizing server setting up link information including authentication ID information in association with the virtual terminal and transmits the link information to the personal terminal upon receipt by the synchronizing server of the information regarding the authentication, and the synchronizing server establishing a synchronization of communication between the personal terminal and the virtual terminal one-to-one upon receipt of both the same

authentication ID information and a signal in response to the link information from the personal terminal. The personal and virtual terminals send and receive messages via the synchronizing server during the synchronization.

Claim 43 concerns an electronic server system for setting up an authentication through a communication network, which communicates a virtual terminal for participating in the authentication with a personal terminal including an information indicating unit and an input unit for inputting information regarding the authentication. The system has a communicating section connected to the communication network, and a processing unit for communicating with the personal terminal and with the virtual terminal through the communicating section, the processing unit setting up link information including authentication ID information in association with the virtual terminal and transmitting the link information which is indicatable in the information indicating unit of the personal terminal upon receipt of the information regarding the authentication transmitted by the personal terminal, the processing unit establishing a synchronization of communication between the personal and virtual terminals one-to-one upon receipt of both the same authentication ID information and a signal in response to the link information from the personal terminal. The personal and virtual terminals send and receive messages via the processing unit server during the synchronization.

Claim 51 relates to a recording medium which stores a program for a computer, for setting up an authentication through a communication network, which communicates a virtual terminal for participating in the authentication with a personal terminal including an information indicating unit and an input unit for inputting information regarding the authentication. There is a communicating module which operates the computer to communicate with the virtual terminal and with the personal terminal through the communicating network, and

a processing module for communicating with the personal terminal and with the virtual terminal through the communicating section, the processing module setting up link information including authentication ID information in association with the virtual terminal and transmitting the link information which is indicatable in the information indicating unit of the personal terminal upon receipt of the information regarding the authentication transmitted by the personal terminal, the processing module establishing a synchronization of communication between the personal and virtual terminals one-to-one upon receipt of both the same authentication ID information and a signal in response to the link information from the personal terminal. The processing module controls sending and receiving of messages by the personal and virtual terminals during the synchronization.

As recited in claim 63, there is an electronic server system for setting up an authentication through a communication network, which communicates with a virtual terminal for participating in the authentication, a personal terminal having an information indicating unit, and an order-receiving center including an order-receiving unit for receiving the information regarding the authentication through an input unit of a communicating terminal for inputting information regarding the authentication. The system has a communicating section connected to the communication network and a processing unit for setting up a link information including authentication ID information in every authentication and transmitting the link information which is indicatable in the information indicating unit of the personal terminal, upon receipt of the information regarding the authentication transmitted by the order-receiving unit through the communicating section, the processing unit establishing a synchronization of communication between the personal and virtual terminals one-to-one upon receipt of both the same authentication ID information and a signal in response to the link information from the personal

terminal. The personal and virtual terminals send and receive messages via the processing unit server during the synchronization.

Claim 74 pertains to a recording medium which stores a program for a computer, for setting up an authentication through a communication network, which communicates with a virtual terminal for participating in the authentication, a personal terminal having an information indicating unit, and an order-receiving center including an order-receiving unit for receiving the information regarding the authentication through an input unit of a communicating terminal for inputting information regarding the authentication. There is a communicating module which operates the computer to communicate with the virtual terminal and with the personal terminal through the communicating network, and a processing module for setting up a link information including authentication ID information in every authentication and transmitting the link information which is indicatable in the information indicating unit of the personal terminal upon receipt of the information regarding the authentication transmitted by the order-receiving unit through the communicating section, the processing module establishing a synchronization of communication between the personal and virtual terminals one-to-one upon receipt of both the same authentication ID information and a signal in response to the link information from the personal terminal. The processing module controls sending and receiving of messages by the personal and virtual terminals during the synchronization.

Applicant respectfully submits that Wilf fails to disclose or even suggest the claimed feature of "synchronization" -- the claims provide that the personal and virtual terminals exchange messages through the authentication apparatus during synchronization, which is neither taught nor suggested by Wilf.

In this regard, it is understood that the Office Action contends that STSP20, 1SP 31 and Consumer Computer 51 serve as a synchronizing server, a virtual register and a paying terminal, respectively.

After receiving the transaction verification form (link information) from STSP 20, the Consumer Computer 51 is connected to the ISP 31. However, during this connection, it is clear that the Consumer Computer 51 and STSP 20 are not connected to each other. Also, it is understood that the Customer Computer and Point of Sale Computer Station communicate directly (see, for example, col. 7, lines 35-50). Consequently, Wilf fails to suggest at least the aspects of the claims providing that the personal and virtual terminals exchange messages through the authentication apparatus during synchronization

Wilf therefore fails even to suggest all of the features of the claimed invention.

It is well-accepted that a reference which fails to identically disclose all the features of an invention cannot anticipate that invention (M.P.E.P. § 2131). As just shown, Wilf fails to even suggest at least the features of the claims providing that the personal and virtual terminals exchange messages through the authentication system, and so does not anticipate those claims.

The remaining rejected claims, claims 37-41, 44-48, 50, 64-68 and 70, all ultimately depend from and so incorporate by reference all the features of the independent claims just shown to distinguish over Wilf. These dependent claims therefore patentably distinguish over Wilf for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims.

For all the foregoing reasons, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The Rejections Under
35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 42, 49, 69, 71 and 73 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilf in view of the PR Newswire article entitled "Geoworks First to Deliver Shopping Discounts Direct to Mobile Phones and Pages" (referred to by the Office Action as "PRN"), hereafter "PRN". Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and submits the following arguments in support thereof.

The rejected claims depend from and so incorporate by reference all the features of claims 36, 43 and 63, including those features which already have been shown to patentably distinguish over Wilf.

The Office Action **admits** that Wilf fails to teach that information regarding a transaction include a number listed in at least one of a mail order advertisement and a catalog distributed to a user in advance.

The Office Action therefore looks to PRN to remedy Wilf's admitted deficiencies with regard to this feature. However, even assuming arguendo that PRN teaches all the Office Action contends, PRN still fails to suggest at least those aspects of the independent claims just shown to patentably distinguish over Wilf. PRN therefore fails to remedy Wilf's deficiencies with regard to the claims, meaning the rejected claims patentably distinguish over the combination of Wilf and PRN for the same reasons the independent claims patentably distinguish over Wilf alone.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all outstanding rejections have been addressed and are now overcome. Applicant further submits that all claims pending in this application are patentable over the prior art. Accordingly, favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this paper. Nevertheless, should the Commissioner deem any additional fee(s) to be now or hereafter due in connection with this application, authority is given to charge all such fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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